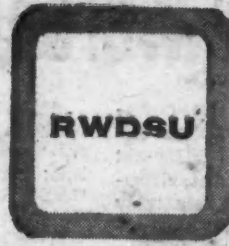


Meat Cutters, RWDSU Sign Jurisdiction Pact



Vol. 5 No. 7 401

April 13, 1958



Signing jurisdiction agreement on behalf of Amalgamated Meat Cutters is Pres. Thomas J. Lloyd, as Amalgamated Sec.-Treas. Patrick E. Gorman, left, RWDSU Sec.-Treas. Alvin E. Heaps and RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg look on. New pact spells out jurisdiction of each union in retail and department stores, is expected to promote organization of unorganized workers. See Page 3 for details.

Alabama S. H. Kress Store Organized; \$4 Boosts Won in First Pact

— Page 7

Key Cities Show Worsening Job Picture

WASHINGTON (PAI)—Four-fifths of the country's major employment areas showed jobless increases during the early months of 1958. Fifty-six of these, according to the Labor Department, dropped to classifications which "reflect a relatively substantial surplus of labor-unemployment exceeding six percent of the labor force." Among important centers dropping into this class were Baltimore, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Indianapolis and Buffalo.

Here are the cities that showed a worsening of unemployment:

From B to C, which means a shift from a slight excess of jobs to a slight surplus of workers as compared with jobs: Denver, Col.; Hartford, Conn.; Washington, D. C.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Aurora, Ill.; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Des Moines, Iowa; Baton Rouge, La.; Akron, Ohio; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Tulsa, Okla.; Dallas, Texas; Richmond, Va.

From C to D, which means a shift from a slight surplus of workers to a definite surplus that is expected to continue for the next four months: New Britain, Conn.; Joliet, Ill.; Peoria, Ill.; Fort Wayne, Ind.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Portland, Me.; Baltimore, Md.; Brockton, Mass.; Springfield, Mass.; Holyoke, Mass.; Worcester, Mass.; Lansing, Mich.; Saginaw, Mich.; Duluth-Superior; Minneapolis-St. Paul; Perth Amboy, N. J.; Syracuse, N. Y.; Toledo, Ohio; Reading, Pa.; York, Pa.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; Beaumont-Port Arthur, Tex.; Corpus Christie, Texas; Fort Worth, Texas.

From D to E, which means a shift from job seekers definitely in excess of jobs to a situation where job hunters are "considerably" in excess of job openings: Evansville, Ind.; South Bend, Ind.; Fall River, Mass.; Lowell, Mass.; Grand Rapids, Mich.; Utica-Rome, N. Y.; Lorain-Elyria, Ohio; Youngstown, Ohio; Johnstown, Pa.; Knoxville, Tenn.; Charleston, W. Va.; Huntington-Ashland; (W. Va.-Ky.); Wheeling-Steubenville; (W. Va.-Ohio).

Two cities—Flint, Michigan and Buffalo, N. Y.—fell from the C classification to the E classification.

From E to F which means a shift from a "considerable" excess of workers to job seekers "substantially" in excess of job openings: Altoona, Pa.; Scranton, Pa.; Wilkes-Barre-Hazleton, Pa.; Providence, R. I.

One city—Detroit, Mich.—fell from the D classification to the F classification which is the lowest category the Department of Labor classifies.

The March list showed 79 areas in the C category indicating a "slight" excess of workers as compared with jobs and 70 in the "substantial" labor surplus categories. There was not a single major area showing an excess of jobs over applicants.

The study further reported that employer plans indicated "the possibility of a slight employment pickup between mid-March and mid-May." Anticipated increases, however, are considerably smaller than those of last year and are centered in seasonal non-manufacturing activities.

AFL-CIO Asks Congress Act Fast: NAM Says 'No'

Showdown Nears on Jobless Aid

WASHINGTON—A showdown is fast approaching in Congress on the emergency proposal to extend unemployment payments for jobless employees who have exhausted their benefits. The AFL-CIO is the principal supporter of the proposal. Business organizations, led by the National Association of Manufacturers, oppose it strongly. At hearings last week before the House Ways and Means Committee, Nelson Cruikshank, AFL-CIO Social Security director, presented the union plan. It provides not only for emergency extension of the period of weekly benefits of those who have exhausted them, but also aid for jobless employees not heretofore eligible. In contrast, R. T. Compton, NAM Social Security adviser, attacked the proposals as a "relief program," and "forcing the federal will upon the people of a state."

The AFL-CIO's two-point proposal would give federal "recovery benefits," similar to unemployment insurance benefits, to the jobless who are not protected by the law but who have records of recent unemployment; and authorize federal grants for general assistance to help those not eligible for either unemployment compensations or recovery benefits. The dual suggestion was coupled with AFL-CIO endorsement of the Kennedy-McCarthy bill, which would permanently liberalize the unemployment compensation or recovery benefits.

Three Weaknesses Cited

"The shortcomings of unemployment insurance are of three kinds," Cruikshank told the committee.

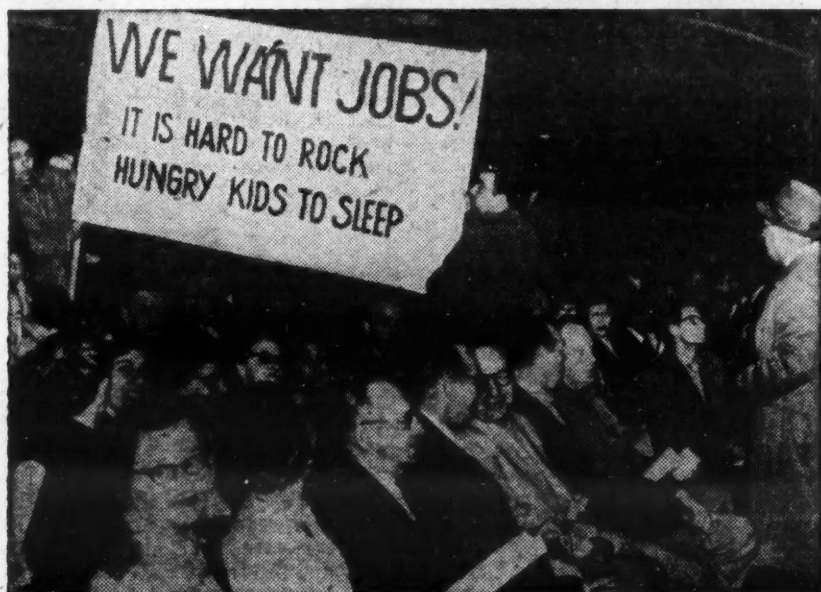
"First, benefits are being paid only to six out of every 10 of the unemployed. Second, workers fortunate enough to draw benefits are averaging less than \$30 a week; benefits average only about one-third of past weekly earnings. Third, about 40,000 claimants each week are using up the last of their benefits.

The AFL-CIO pointed out that more than 800,000 jobless workers have exhausted their benefits since September. Some 3.3 million unemployed who are now drawing benefits—at rates varying from state to state—face the same prospect. Another 1.8 million jobless are ineligible for benefits, he added, and only about 25 percent of these would benefit under the Administration plan.

Big Businessman Likes Recession

"My feeling is that recession within bounds is healthy. We have been in a boom economy since 1946. The pause will make us more efficient and competitive after setting new records for capital expansion. We need a breather for the economy to catch up with us. It will be healthy if it runs a year."

—Paul Davies, Board Chairman of \$300 million-a-year Food Machinery and Chemical Corp., quoted in Time magazine.



CRITICAL UNEMPLOYMENT IN CONNECTICUT brought out over 2,000 persons to an AFL-CIO rally to urge special session of the Connecticut legislature to enact emergency anti-recession legislation.

Pres. Greenberg Asks Locals To Speed \$1 COPE Donations

NEW YORK CITY—The current economic crisis requires redoubled efforts by RWDSU members to elect candidates who will support a program to put America back to work—and redoubled efforts to collect \$1 voluntary contributions for COPE—Pres. Max Greenberg declared.

He called on all locals of the RWDSU "right now" to distribute COPE collection books—now available at the International Union office—and collect the \$1 contributions. A quota for each local is now being prepared and Pres. Greenberg said he is confident the locals will meet their quotas.

"Our union in recent years established an enviable record of participation in political action and collections for COPE," he declared. "But we cannot rest on our laurels. The critical events of today demand that we play our part in shaping the future of our nation, and in helping to elect legislators who will straighten out the current mess in Washington and put the country back on the prosperity road. Every member of our union can play a role with his \$1 donation to COPE."

In a statement noting the current serious unemployment situation, James J.

McDevitt, director of COPE, called on "working men and women and their families and friends to support candidates for office who pledge themselves to work for a program to halt the deepening recession and put the jobless millions back to work."

This program, said the COPE director, includes a tax cut for low and middle income groups, a public works program keyed to public housing, hospitals, schools, and highways, increased levels and duration of jobless benefits, aid for distressed communities, and extension of minimum wage coverage.

"The simplest and easiest way" to support candidates who will back this program, he added, is to contribute to COPE, register and vote.

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Telephone: WI 7-9303

Max GreenbergPresident
Alvin E. Heaps.....Sec.-Treasurer
Jack Paley.....Exec. Secretary
Arthur Osman, Alex Bail, Sam Kovenetsky..Exec. V.-Presidents

Max SteinbockEditor
Bernard Stephens, Managing Editor
Stanley GlaubachArt Editor
Robert Dobbs, Roland Willoughby
Assistant Editors

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rwdsu RECORD

RWDSU, Meatcutters Sign Jurisdiction Pact

CHICAGO—An agreement spelling out lines of jurisdiction in retail and department stores was signed here March 26 by top officers of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, and the Retail, Wholesale and Dept. Store Union. The agreement sets up a formula designed to avert jurisdictional conflict between the two unions, with the aim of helping both unions do a better job of organizing the unorganized.

Participating in the signing ceremonies at Amalgamated headquarters here were Pres. Max Greenberg and Sec.-Treas. Alvin E. Heaps of the RWDSU, and Pres. Thomas J. Lloyd and Sec.-Treas. Patrick E. Gorman of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters. The agreement was the product of a series of meetings in which these four top officers and Exec. Vice-Pres. Harry R. Poole and Vice-Pres. Marvin W. Hook of the Amalgamated also participated. Discussion of the proposed agreement also took place at the RWDSU Executive Board meeting last month, at which Poole and Amalgamated Vice-Pres. Joseph Belsky met with the RWDSU leaders.

After general discussion with the Board, the Amalgamated representatives met with a subcommittee consisting of Pres. Greenberg, Heaps, Exec. Vice-Pres. Arthur Osman, Vice-Pres. Julius Sum and Regional Dir. George Barlow, which finalized terms of the proposed agreement.

Original Charters Overlap

The conflict in jurisdictions of the two unions stemmed originally from the charters each was granted by its parent federation. The Amalgamated was awarded official jurisdiction over employees handling meat in retail stores in the charter it was issued by the American Federation of Labor in 1897. Forty years later, when the RWDSU was chartered by the CIO in 1937, it was given jurisdiction over all employees in retail and department stores.

The merger of AFL and CIO more than two years ago united in a single new federation a number of unions with overlapping jurisdictions, among them the RWDSU and the Amalgamated Meat Cutters. Recognizing that the spirit of unity and harmony envisioned at the



FOUR-WAY HANDSHAKE symbolizes cooperation between RWDSU and Amalgamated Meat Cutters as result of new jurisdictional agreement signed by leaders of both unions. Shown above during RWDSU Executive Board meeting last month where Amalgamated leaders met with Board are, left to right, Amalgamated Vice-Pres. Joseph Belsky and Exec. Vice-Pres. Harry Poole, and RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg and Sec.-Treas. Alvin Heaps.

merger of the AFL and CIO could best be carried out by resolving areas of possible jurisdictional conflict, the two unions, in identical letters to their affiliated locals, hailed the agreement as "another milestone in the progress of the labor movement."

The agreement defines the Amalgamated's jurisdiction over retail and department store employees who handle meat, poultry or fish, and the RWDSU's jurisdiction over all other retail and department store employees. It calls for notification by each union to the other when campaigns to organize the unorganized in stores where meat handlers are employed are undertaken.

A procedure provided by the agreement for settling any jurisdictional conflict between the two unions calls for a meeting to be arranged between the responsible officers of each union within ten days after a complaint of a violation of the agreement is received. If the two parties fail to reach agreement within five

days after the meeting, the dispute may be submitted to an arbitration board consisting of the presidents of both International unions and Prof. John T. Dunlop of Harvard University, or designees whom each of the three individuals may name in their stead. The decision of a majority of such an arbitration board must be rendered within 30 days after it hears the dispute, and is to be final and binding upon both parties.

Agreement for One Year

The agreement, which became effective March 26, will remain in effect until the same date next year. Unless either party notifies the other of its desire to terminate the agreement 60 days before the anniversary date, the agreement will continue in effect from year to year.

In a statement hailing the agreement, Amalgamated officers Lloyd and Gorman said:

"It is our belief that the under-

standing arrived at will enable both unions to better proceed to do the job of organizing the unorganized. We are confident that in the future both unions will benefit greatly as a result of this understanding since they will not dissipate their energies quarrelling with each other but will concentrate on the greater objective of bringing a better way of life to their members."

Responding on behalf of the RWDSU, Pres. Greenberg and Sec.-Treas. Heaps said: "The agreement between the Amalgamated and the RWDSU means not only the elimination of jurisdictional disputes, but also that both International unions can organize the unorganized in retail and department stores in the spirit of trade union brotherhood. We believe that mutual aid and cooperation as envisioned in this agreement carry out the spirit and intent of the AFL-CIO merger. The results must, of necessity, bring additional benefits to the members of both unions."

Kennedy, Reuther to Speak at RWDSU Rally

The importance of the RWDSU rally to be held in Washington April 29 was underscored last week when two outstanding liberals accepted invitations to speak at the noon meeting where union delegates will be briefed before visiting their Congressmen. The two guest speakers are Senator John F. Kennedy (Dem., Mass.) and United Auto Workers Pres. Walter P. Reuther, who is also president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.

Sen. Kennedy, often named as a leading contender for the Democratic Presidential nomination in 1960, is chairman of the Senate Labor Subcommittee on fair labor standards, which is now considering amendments to broaden coverage under the federal minimum wage law. Walter Reuther, former president of the CIO, has been one of the nation's most vocal critics of the Administration's do-nothing policy on unemployment.

Other important labor and Congressional leaders are also expected to join in the briefing session for the RWDSU delegates, which will be held

at George Washington University's Lisner Auditorium. RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg, announcing the acceptances by Sen. Kennedy and Reuther, called upon all locals to "redouble their efforts" to send a big delegation to Washington April 29. He noted that the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO, which is meeting in Washington the same day, was also being invited to participate in the rally.

The RWDSU is seeking to bring 1,500 delegates to the capital April 29, to make the rally the biggest in the union's history. Following are detailed plans for the rally:

- Most delegates from New York City and the metropolitan area will travel on a specially chartered Pennsylvania R.R. train. This train will leave New York's Penn Station at 7:45 a.m. on April 29 and arrive in Washington about 11:30 a.m. It will leave Washington at 5:55 p.m. the same day and arrive in New York before 10 p.m. that evening. Lunch will be served on the way to Washington, and dinner on the way home. The complete cost for transportation, lunch and dinner will be \$13 per person—compared with the usual cost of \$19.32 for railroad coach fare alone.

- The special train from New York will be met by chartered buses at Washington's Union Station to take delegates to George Washington University's Lisner Auditorium, 21st and H Streets. There the New Yorkers will join delegates from other areas for a briefing session which is scheduled to begin shortly after 12 noon.

- Immediately after the meeting at Lisner Auditorium, chartered buses will take all delegates up to the Capitol to meet with their Senators and Representatives. The rest of the afternoon will be spent lobbying for the AFL-CIO program to halt the recession and put America back to work—with special emphasis on extending coverage under the federal wage-hour law.

- At 5 p.m., delegates will gather at the steps of the Capitol for a group picture and for a few final words from RWDSU officers.

- Tickets for the special train and other arrangements for the April 29 rally will be handled by the staff of The Record. Requests for information or other assistance should be addressed to the newspaper's editors.

LABOR NEWS ROUNDUP

UAW Begins Crucial '58 Talks With 'Big 3'

DETROIT (PAI)—Headed by Pres. Walter P. Reuther, the United Auto Workers have opened their 1958 bargaining sessions with the Big Three—negotiations that will be the highspots of the year for much of organized labor. On March 25, the UAW's negotiators, headed by Reuther and Vice-President Leonard Woodcock, walked into the General Motors Building here and presented to GM officials the collective bargaining goals of the union's 350,000 GM members. Ford talks began March 31; Chrysler started April 1.

The first fifteen minutes of the session were lively with banter as photographers climbed on chairs and tables to take pictures of the 38 negotiators representing both the UAW and GM. At the same time both the union and the company issued statements expressing hope for a peaceful settlement based on "economic justice." What comes out of the historic sessions may well serve as the pattern for millions of other workers for whom collective bargaining contracts will be negotiated this year.

The union's National General Motors Council recently adopted the broad grounds of the bargaining goals now before GM. They include:

- A general, non-inflationary wage increase which reflects the improved company productivity in the economy under full employment conditions.
- Correction of wage inequities of production workers and skilled trades.
- Increased Supplementary Unemployment Benefits to 80% of take-home pay and expansion of the benefit period to 52 weeks;
- Supplementary benefits to workers on short work weeks;
- Improved compensation and hospital and medical plans.

• Protection of workers hit by decentralization and plant movement through transfer, moving allowances and severance pay.

The union is now building up a \$50,000,000 strike fund through a \$5 dues increase that will run through March, April and May.

N.Y.C. Adopts Labor Code

NEW YORK—A new labor code guaranteeing nearly 100,000 New York City civil service workers the right to join unions and negotiate on wages, working conditions and grievances has been signed by Mayor Robert F. Wagner.

The code, an executive order, sets up machinery to allow civil service workers to designate by majority vote the union of their choice for bargaining purposes. It will apply to departments directly responsible to the mayor but other municipal agencies and borough offices will be urged to adopt identical procedures.

Firemen will be covered by the code but there will be further study on the problem of covering uniformed police. Exempt from the Wagner order are employees of the Board of Education and the Transit Authority whose labor relations are governed by state law.



PICKETS HELP WAIFS: Jane Russell, head of WAIF and mother of three adopted children, has thanked Local 535, Hotel and Restaurant Workers, for temporarily withdrawing picket line at Palm Springs, Calif. so benefit for World Adoption International Fund (WAIF) could proceed. "Next time someone takes a crack at labor unions," she said, "just remember they're the guys next door and they have a heart." This picture shows her with orphan at Choong Hyun Babies Home in Korea last summer.

Catholic Church in Ohio Hits 'Right-to-Work' Law

COLUMBUS, Ohio (PAI)—The Catholic Church in Ohio has come out strongly against the heated and controversial proposal for a so-called "right to work" law in this state. A statement issued by the Ohio Catholic Welfare Conference and approved by the Catholic Bishops of Ohio declared:

"We are convinced that a 'Right to Work' amendment would not solve our problems but might lead to a more intensified struggle for domination and thus postpone an era of peaceful cooperation."

Asserting that they "believe it is unwise to encourage State intervention . . . whether it be in favor of 'Right to Work' laws or against them," the Bishops noted there are certain abuses which sometimes creep into the labor movement.

But, they added, "we are convinced that 'Right to Work' laws are not the proper means to correct them."

Taking up the argument of anti-union groups that workers shouldn't be required to join a union, the Bishops pointed out: "For reasons of social justice it may be desirable and often advantageous to the common good that man's right be restricted by certain specified conditions. One of these imposed conditions may require that he belong to a labor union or at least be obliged to join the union subsequently, so as to share responsibility with his fellow workmen in support of the union."

Welfare Fund Bill Heads For Senate Passage

WASHINGTON—Prospects for passage of the AFL-CIO-endorsed bill to protect employee welfare and pension plans got a major boost when the Senate Labor Committee voted overwhelmingly to send the measure to the floor.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Paul H. Douglas (D-Ill.) and now co-sponsored with Administration backing by Sen. Irving M. Ives (R-N.Y.), would require reports to the federal government on management of all money reserved for the benefit of employees under welfare and pension programs.

In addition to requiring disclosure of financial facts, whether the plans are administered by management, unions or management and unions jointly, the measure would make embezzlement of welfare money a federal crime.

All committee Democrats except Sen. Strom Thurmond (S.C.), who was absent, voted to report the bill favorably. The only negative votes were cast by Senators Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) and Gordon Allott (R-Colo.).

In the House parallel welfare-and-pension-plan measures are now pending before the full Labor Committee headed by Rep. Graham Barden (D-N.C.). Liberal sources say they will move to get committee action, based on extensive hearings last year, no later than May 1.

The original Douglas bill received the strong support of the AFL-CIO last year when Pres. George Meany testified in formal hearings in favor of strict disclosure requirements for the administrators of all welfare programs.

Labor Sec. James P. Mitchell, who originally proposed a more limited disclosure bill for the Administration, in effect swung his support to the Douglas bill in 1957 testimony.

Opposition has come only from insurance companies, the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers and the American Retail Federation, which have argued in hearings that pension and welfare programs administered solely by management should be exempt from disclosure requirements.

Labor's Daily Suspends

BETTENDORF Ia. (PAI)—With the issue of March 29, Labor's Daily suspended publication of its daily labor newspaper after more than five years of continuous publication. Suspension of the publication, which was started Sep. 16, 1952 by the International Typographical Union, was announced by its editor, Ralph "Scoop" White. He said that the failure of large international unions to provide support led to the suspension.

The fate of Labor's Daily had been in doubt for more than a year. Last December, in a meeting following a session of the AFL-CIO convention at Atlantic City, ITU Pres. Woodruff Randolph announced that the paper would cease publication if the labor movement did not contribute more generously to its support.

WATCH on the POTOMAC

By ROBERT C. SPIVACK

WHY DO PRICES STAY UP?—The paradox of the 1958 recession is easily stated, but not so readily understood and it's beginning to worry a lot of people. The economy is in the midst of what "Time" magazine calls a "pause for breath." If what we learned in college economics were true prices should be tumbling.

The essence of the "free economy" as we were taught it was this: if the demand falls off the seller lowers his price. When the price becomes attractive enough for the buyer he will take the product off the seller's hands.

But it isn't working that way. Take the case of oil and gasoline. There is so much oil now in the U.S. we don't know what to do about it. According to reliable reports from Texas there are excess stocks of 781,000,000 barrels.

Do the Big Oil interests let the public in on this secret? You can be darned sure of the answer and it's "no." Instead the Texas oilmen send up a hue and cry about "foreign" imports. Venezuela, which is virtually a colony of Standard Oil of New Jersey, is forced to cut back on her production. Other small oil-producing nations face the same situation. Canadian oil sales are in bad shape.

The main drive of the Big Oil interests—the little oilman simply has nothing to say about it—is to keep prices high. In many Eastern states a gallon of gasoline sells for anywhere from 32c to 39c depending on whether it is "high test," or "regular" or super-duper high octane. Result: many ordinary people who used to go riding on the week-ends for pleasure now stay home and watch television.

There is a further result: tire dealers can't sell their products. General Tire Co. has even sanctioned announcements on radio that its dealers are overstocked. Yet tire manufacturers aren't offering any bargain.

There is a further result: tire dealers can't sell their products. General Tire Co. has even sanctioned announcements on radio that its dealers are overstocked. Yet tire manufacturers aren't offering any bargain.

WHO GETS IT IN THE NECK?—The question of cutting prices resolves itself simply into this: who is going to take

the inevitable financial beating that must come with price reductions? If the retailer cuts prices while he is overstocked, he is the profit loser. If the wholesaler does the cutting while the stock is on his hands he must bear the burden of a profit's reduction.

The only solution that Big Business has come up with so far is, to let the laboring man take the beating. He's simply fired and that removes a high cost from the industrialist's budget.

But there are other things that result from mass lay-offs. If a workingman cannot buy then the retailer can't unload his stock. If he can't get rid of what is on his shelves then he'll certainly not take off the wholesaler's hands the inventories he is carrying. And then we get back to the industrialist who isn't producing or selling. That's how a downward spiral makes a little recession into a big depression.

The crisis that we are suffering is essentially a crisis of confidence, not simply one of profits. The big bankers who

control credit won't release it until they know what their cut (interest) is to be and what plans, if any, the government has for stimulating new production.

Thus far we have had two anti-recession measures: a big housing bill and a \$1½ billion increase for defense spending. The latter, of course, is sheer waste. For unexplained reasons the Administration would rather build arms and let them rust than help small underdeveloped countries get on their feet.

Reports coming to the office of Vice President Nixon are that the public is growing a little tired of all this indecision by federal officials. A "little recession" may be good for some people; it's obviously quite good for the big commercial banks. They have made a killing on the juggling of interest rates.

But it's no good for ordinary people and it's no good for Republican politicians. Even Democrats run a risk when things stay bad too long. People get restive and begin to talk of "throwing the rascals out" without regard to party label.

NEW YORK CITY AFL-CIO UNEMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE APRIL 8, 1958



RWDSU PARTICIPANTS in city-wide AFL-CIO conference on unemployment April 8 join leaders of New York's labor bodies on platform after meeting. Among those shown with AFL Council Pres. Harry Van Arsdale and City CIO Sec.-Treas. Morris Iushewitz are District 65 Sec.-Treas. Cleveland Robinson and Employment Dir. Rubin Schochet, who led group of '65' stewards. Not shown is '338' Pres. Julius Sum, who also participated in his capacity of vice-president of City CIO Council. The meeting mapped plans for concerted action on city's unemployment.

\$45 a Week New Top Rate Is Retroactive

New York Okays Jobless Pay Hike

ALBANY, N. Y.—Gov. Averell Harriman late last month signed into law increases in unemployment insurance benefits which bring the maximum payment to \$45 a week instead of the former \$36. In a statement to the legislature which accompanied his approval, the Governor said that although the new bill did not include all of the proposals that he and organized labor had asked for, it "is a substantial improvement over the earlier bills I was forced to disapprove."

The new law is a compromise between the Governor's requests and bills pushed by the Republican majority in the state legislature which would have weakened the law with unfair gimmicks.

On benefit rates the new law does two things. It adds nine new rates, ranging from \$37 to \$45, and it makes these increased rates retroactive to July 1, 1957. Thus, a worker whose benefit year began July 1, 1957 or later, and who draws the top rate of \$36 based on earnings of \$73 a week or more, will now receive the higher rate. Such a worker will also receive the difference between \$36 and the new rate for the period since July 1.

Back Pay by Aug. 1

The State Labor Dept. announced that weekly benefit checks for currently unemployed workers who are affected by the change in the law will be issued at the new rate when their individual new rates are determined. Back benefit checks will be issued in a lump sum and mailed to the worker at his home by Aug. 1.

The new top rate of \$45 will go to unemployed workers who earned an average of \$90 a week or more. Those who averaged between \$73 and \$89.99 will receive increased benefits between \$37 and \$44 a week.

Local 147, Hit by Recession, Sees Organizing the Answer

NEW YORK CITY—Plagued by a serious loss of jobs in its shops, Watch & Jewelry Local 147 is fighting back the best way it knows how—by organizing unorganized companies. Unemployment, which is now growing almost everywhere in the country has haunted the '147' watch and jewelry shops during the past year or more, as cheaply made foreign imports cut into American manufacture. More recently, the additional drag of a slowed-down economy has cut into union jobs even more.

"The only way we can alleviate this situation," Business Mgr. Ted Bowman declared, "is to put our best efforts into organizing more shops, of which there are many in such related industries as plating. Although these shops have been hit too, they service a broader group of industries, and they are more likely to stay in business than some of our smaller watch and jewelry shops in particular."

A recent victory in signing up a new shop was scored at Service Plating Co. Local 147 broke through after years of fruitless attempts by several unions,

including '147', to organize the shop. Negotiations for a first contract are now under way on behalf of the 25 workers.

Negotiations opening up in many other '147' shops in the next few weeks take place against the background of depressed business conditions, Bowman said. In addition to unemployment caused by liquidations and lay-offs, some shops are working just three days a week.

Ohrnstein of '1125' Dies

NEW YORK CITY—Samuel Ohrnstein, one of the founders of Retail Women's Apparel Local 1125 and a full-time leader of the local for 10 years, died Wednesday, April 2 at the age of 57.

Ohrnstein had suffered for some years from a heart ailment and diabetes. He died at his home as the result of a heart attack, which struck as he lay asleep.

Officers of the International Union joined '1125' Business Mgr. Louis Feldstein and other leaders and many members of the local at the funeral, which was held at the Riverside Chapel in Brooklyn Friday, April 4. RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg accompanied the local executive board as an honorary pallbearer.

Ohrnstein came from the ranks to a position of leadership in Local 1125. He worked in a ladies' apparel shop on Manhattan's Division Street, and helped organize the union from its beginnings in 1933. First joining the local's staff as a business agent, he was elected in 1951 to the post of secretary-treasurer, which he held until his death.

"Sam Ohrnstein was a great friend and an outstanding trade union leader," Business Mgr. Feldstein said. "No matter what the assignment, he took it gladly and brought it to completion. Sam was the kind of man who extended sympathy and help to every member who came to him with a problem. For his qualities as a union man and as a human being, we will all miss him. Sam could never be replaced."

He is survived by his wife, Rae, two sons, Irwin and Adolf, and a brother, Paul.

Northeast

Ask N. J. Ban Highway Store Sunday Sales

TRENTON, N. J.—Speaking to the New Jersey Legislature on behalf of Local 108 and the 250,000 members of the New Jersey State CIO Council, Irving Rosenberg, '108' director, urged the passage of a bill to put a ban on Sunday opening of stores selling non-essential goods, which operate seven days a week on Jersey highways.

He attacked Sunday operation of highway stores as a trend that would spread to the cities, where '108' members work, endangering a number of union-won gains such as Sundays off. Pointing out that retail workers are already unfairly excluded from the benefits of the federal wage and hour laws, Rosenberg cited the trend toward Sunday opening as "a new factor threatening to hasten their economic decline. The seven-day operations of retail stores inaugurated by a few will, unless halted, compel the entire industry to follow suit."

While his statement dwelled on the problems of the retail worker, Rosenberg said, "we are equally disturbed by the adverse impact that Sunday operation has on the entire community." He called attention to the diversion of business from in-town stores to the highway stores that open on Sundays, and pointed to the fact that in many large cities the downtown shopping areas are heavily punctuated by vacant stores.

More and More Closings

"As more and more merchants in the urban shopping districts are forced to close their doors because of this unfair Sunday competition," he added, "property values in these commercial districts will fall."

In conclusion, he maintained that "it becomes obvious that the retail worker, the merchant, the municipality, the tax payer, and the consumer himself will suffer an economic loss caused by the Sunday opening highway store."

Recession Note

A broken-down old car pulled up to the toll gate at the Lincoln Tunnel in New York.

"Fifty cents," said the collector.

"Sold," replied the driver.



PROUD MOMENT for family of RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg came April 2 when his son Martin was sworn in as deputy attorney general of New Jersey. Only 26, the newly appointed official is one of youngest ever to be appointed to such a post. Earlier he had served as a legal aide to Gov. Robert Meyner. Shown from left are Martin's wife Sondra, Martin, Pres. and Mrs. Greenberg, and Acting Attorney General David D. Furman during ceremony in state capital.



SAMUEL OHRNSTEIN

The Midwest

'Some Progress' Reported in Talks At Black's Dept. Store in Iowa

WATERLOO, Ia.—First contract negotiations with Black's department store have made some progress, with agreement on a number of contract provisions, Regional Dir. Al Evanoff reported. Questions of money are still open, with the employees seeking to narrow considerably the wide gap between their wages and those of industrial workers in this city. The company's initial position has been that there is no wage increase in the cards now, Evanoff said.

Black's employees, who number 325, voted for RWDSU in an election Feb. 10. They are members of Local 860.

Among the issues on which progress has been made are those concerning straight commission sales people. Management has offered a 90-day cut-off period beyond which returned purchases will not be charged against earned commissions, in answer to the union's demand for a 60-day cut-off. In the past there was no time limit on returns.

Also offered is holiday pay at average earnings, something these employees never had before, and vacation pay at average earnings instead of at the rate of the draw only.

There has been agreement in principle on a grievance procedure with arbitration as the final step and sick leave provisions.

Waterloo Labor Watching

Evanoff observed that the negotiations are being closely watched by all of organized labor in this city, which gave generous help in the Black's organizing campaign, as well as by unorganized workers. Already, he said, employers of unorganized retail stores have handed out \$2 wage boosts as a first attempt to convince the workers that they don't need a union.

Meanwhile, Local 860, moving to grow into the important retail union here, has filed a petition for election at Davidson's, Waterloo's largest furniture store with 60 workers. Davidson's operates two other stores, one in Des Moines and one in Mason City, Iowa.

Capell Heads United Fund Drive

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—An RWDSU leader will be the first representative of organized labor ever to serve as general chairman of the Wyandotte County United Community Campaign. The County includes the Kansas City metropolitan area. Int'l Rep. John R. Capell, Jr. was the unanimous choice of the community fund campaign committee, which consists of business leaders who have served as general chairmen in past years.



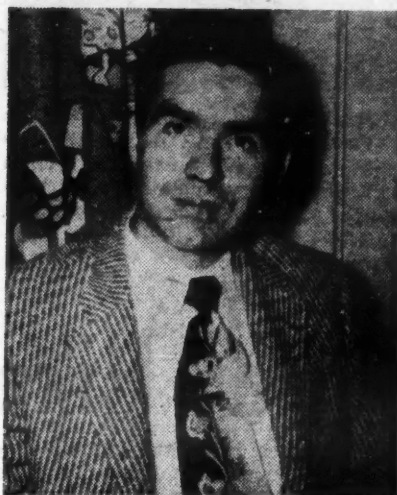
JOHN CAPELL, Jr.

In a letter to RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg, the chairman of the campaign committee, Capell was "an outstanding worker and leader in our efforts for several years... he is now the logical choice to be our general chairman."

In reply, Pres. Greenberg wrote that "We consider it an honor that John Capell has been selected as general chairman."

Capell's duties in the campaign, which will take place next fall, will be to give overall supervision to the many phases of raising funds for community welfare. This includes appointing chairmen of various divisions of the campaign in the next few months.

They Lead O. Local 379 Dairies



PAT SUNDERLAND
Chairman Unit H-1, Harmony Farms



DEAN LITTICK
Chairman Unit G, Borden's



RAY SCHMIDT
Chairman Unit L, Borden's



FRED FORREY
Chairman Unit S, Borden's

Hour Cut and Wage Boost Won at Two Ohio Dairies

COLUMBUS, O.—Members of Local 379 at two dairies—Harmony Farms here and Borden's in Mansfield—have won contract settlements in the pattern of hours reductions plus wage boosts which has been established in '379' shops throughout the state, Int'l Rep. Gene Ingles reported.

At Harmony Farms, working hours are reduced from 45 to 40 per week, with a pay hike of 5 cents an hour. Int'l Rep. Ned Harkless and Unit Chairman Pat Sunderland led a negotiating committee consisting of Don Chavis, Bob Handy, Bill Rice, Roy Harrington, Frank Domijonovich and Larry Thomas.

The Borden employees, led by Chairman Ray Schmidt, ratified a settlement which reduces working hours to 40 per week on or before next Sept. 1 for plant employees, with a 5-cent hourly pay increase. The 40-hour take-home pay of these workers will remain the same as they now earn for 48 hours' work.

Wholesale routemen won increases of \$1.40 in their day rate, bringing it to \$3.40; retail men received 50-cent day rate boosts and commission increases from .027 to .029 per point sold, and ice cream salesmen got a \$25 monthly wage boost as well as increases of ½ cent per gallon of Borden's ice cream products sold.

There are other improvements, including changes in vacation schedules. The shop negotiating committee included

James Neer, Lew Davis, Charles Gamble and Art Kent, assisted by Int'l Rep. Vern Ulery.

Probe Ky. 'Work' Law Bribe

FRANKFORT, Ky.—A Franklin County grand jury will be asked this month to look into charges of bribery and solicitation attempts in connection with "right-to-work" and other measures during the session of the Kentucky legislature just ended.

Reports of such activities have been widespread here the past few weeks. The Louisville Courier-Journal of March 18 quoted John Steger, lobbyist for Associated Industries of Kentucky, as saying in a speech that he had been solicited by a member of the legislature for a \$10,000 bribe to obtain passage of the "right-to-work" bill. The legislature adjourned without acting on the measure.

A special house committee looking into the bribery charges held two days of hearings, heard several witnesses and adjourned with a recommendation that house members "behave themselves in a manner consistent with their duties."

The state's attorney general has asked Kentucky's 96 registered lobbyists to report any bribery or solicitation attempts that have come to their attention.

375 in Chicago Open Talks For New Pacts

CHICAGO, Ill.—About 175 members of the Chicago Joint Board in two shops were in negotiations for new contracts last week, while 200 in two other shops were getting ready for talks to renew agreements due to expire soon, Joint Board Pres. Henry Anderson reported.

The 100 employees of Clark Candy began bargaining last week for wage increases, improvements in health care coverage, vacations and holidays, and reduction of a new worker's trial period from the present 45 to 30 days.

The committee representing Clark employees includes Ethel Riddle, Marie Henge, Anne Nix, Grace Wilson, James Sheehan and Kate Renfore. The current pact expires May 17.

Talks opened a month ago at the Close Candy Co., employing about 75 members of Local 15. A company offer of 3 cents this year and 2 cents next year has been rejected by the workers, and negotiations continue. Committee members, led by Joint Board Rep. Carl Sanzone, are Tony DiSario, Mary Lynch, Anne Berns and Lillian Dugan.

Due to start negotiations soon, said Anderson, are 150 Johnson Candy Co. workers and the 40 employees of Howard Clothes. The contracts in both these shops expire May 1.

'Unfair' Charges Filed Over Spencer Press Layoffs in Chicago

CHICAGO, Ill.—The RWDSU's Chicago Joint Board will file information with the National Labor Relations Board charging that the Spencer Press Co. committed unfair labor practices last December, when it laid off 25 employees who were among the most active in organizing the book and periodical warehouse.

The workers voted 77 to 69 for the RWDSU over "no union" in an election last November. Twenty-one additional "no union" ballots were challenged by the union on the ground that they were cast by supervisors, who are prohibited by law from voting in a collective bargaining election. The labor board has been investigating the challenges since early this year.

The union waited until now to file the unfair labor practice charges because earlier filing would have lengthened the delay already necessitated by the investigation. The union charges specifically that the employees were laid off in order to try to intimidate the rest of the shop, and that they have not been called back to work, although the firm has put on new workers.

Joint Board Pres. Henry Anderson said the workers at Spencer remain solid in their determination to bring the union into the shop in spite of strong company efforts to discourage them.

Citation

FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

*Greetings to the officers and members of Local 436
Retail, Wholesale and Departmental Store Union*

AFL-CIO

THE COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL EDUCATION, AFL-CIO

HONORARY CITIZENSHIP YOU HAVE ACHIEVED

FULL REGISTRATION

ON ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR ORGANIZATION FOR PURPOSE OF VOTING IN THE
PUBLIC ELECTIONS IN THE YEAR 1957, THERE LAYING A SOLID FOUNDATION
FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE CITIZENSHIP PRIVILEGES WHICH
ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO THE AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC TRADITION

THIS IS CITATION NUMBER 7

James H. Green
W. T. Grant



ALABAMA LOCAL HONORED: From the AFL-CIO's Committee on Political Education last week came this citation for Local 436 in Birmingham, hailing its feat of registering every member to vote in '58 elections. '436' members work in H. L. Green, W. T. Grant stores.

Three Atlanta Shops Seeking RWDSU Health Plan Coverage

ATLANTA, Ga.—Close to 150 workers in three shops of Local 315 are preparing for negotiations on contract expirations due in the next two months, Int'l Rep. Guy Dickinson reported. The shops are Rexall Drug warehouse, Economy Auto Supply and Evans Metal Co.

The Economy Auto shop, which recently completed a successful drive to sign the workers up 100 percent, feels new strength as a result of the addition of 18 members who were formerly exempt from the union. The workers' demands reflect this feeling, as they prepare to win wage boosts of 20 cents an hour, coverage by the comprehensive RWDSU Health and Welfare Plan instead of the simple hospitalization they have now and other improvements.

Members of the shop negotiating committee include Charles Johnson, Jerry McCoy and Jacqueline Neal. The current pact expires June 1.

The 80 Rexall Drug warehouse workers also have a June 1 expiration. Talks, to be led by '315' Pres. Douglas McRae and Vice-Pres. Ranell Mathis, both of whom work in the shop, are due to start

soon. These employees seek substantial wage boosts, RWDSU Health and Pension Plan coverage, a union voice in layoffs and promotions, and other gains.

The Evans Metal workers' contract expires June 24, and they have decided to go for wage increases of 15 cents an hour, Health and Welfare Plan coverage and an extra paid holiday.



JACK FIELDS, president of Bakery Local 441 in Birmingham, Ala., is blessed with fruitful union in more ways than one. After 3 boys, his wife gave birth on March 12 to girl.

April 13, 1958

S. H. Kress Variety Store Organized in Bessemer, Ala.; \$4 Won in Quick Contract

BESSEMER, Ala.—S. H. Kress, one of the nation's best known variety chains, was organized here in a swift campaign led by Organizer C. T. Daniels during the past month, Ass't Dir. Frank Parker reported. In short order after a majority of the employees had signed up, union recognition was won and negotiations produced wage and minimum gains to bring the store in line with other Local 436 variety stores here and in nearby Birmingham.

Parker said the quick victory at Kress gives promise of success in a planned drive to organize the rest of the retail stores in Bessemer, a Birmingham suburb, about 12 miles from the center of the big city. Targets already picked out include several variety, apparel and other retail establishments. The employees of these shops all suffer from very low wages and poor working conditions.

Daniels made contact with the Kress employees by walking into the store without previous introduction and speaking to them. He found a warm welcome, particularly from the many employees who know unions through their families. Bessemer is a steel and coal mining center, whose working population is largely organized in the Steelworkers and Mine Workers unions.

The quick organization of the workers was followed by equally swift management-granted recognition of Local 436 as the union of the employees' choice.

Strike at Store Recalled

Actually, the union and Kress management had met before. Seven years ago an RWDSU organizing campaign developed into a bitter seven-month strike in which the company and the union both suffered losses. Parker said that top management from the firm's New York headquarters gave immediate recognition to the union with the expressed feeling that the company would not again

chance an experience like that of the strike several years ago.

The new contract provides wage boosts of \$4 a week for all and 10-cent hourly increases in the minimum rate, bringing it from 60 to 70 cents an hour. Also written into the contract were previously granted benefits, such as paid holidays and vacations. Parker and Daniels led a rank and file negotiating committee, and the settlement terms were enthusiastically ratified by the members.

In Birmingham, meanwhile, negotiations for a new contract opened last week between Local 441 and Interstate Bakery, which employs 180 members of the union. The workers seek to improve the current pact, which expires early next month, with wage increases, RWDSU Health, Welfare and Pension Plan coverage and other changes to bring it in line with the city-wide contract with the "Big Four" bakeries.

They also aim to make a contract which expires at the same time as the city-wide pact, in the spring of 1959. Int'l Rep. Bill Langston, who is leading the shop negotiating committee, said good progress has been made toward these goals. The committee members are Shop Chairman Robert Myers, Dora Norton, Irene Stallings, James Martin, Elizabeth Garner, J. L. White, John Thomas Smith and James Franklin.

Fla. Miles Store Organized

CORAL GABLES, Fla.—The Miles Shoe store here has been organized by Local 1010 of the RWDSU in a one-week campaign which brought all but the store manager into the union, Regional Dir. Harry Bush reported. This town is a suburb of Miami, located a few miles south of the big city.

Bush said the company, which operates a chain of some 200 stores, many of them organized in RWDSU locals, is expected to open additional units in this area, and the union is prepared to seek extension of a contract to these stores.

The union is now seeking recognition at the store, and plans to start contract negotiations immediately this is forthcoming. The salesmen now work a 45 to 50-hour week, for which they are paid a base rate of \$65 plus one percent commission. The cashier earns \$40 a week. The workers are looking to improve these wages and to add benefits typical of other retail shoe contracts of RWDSU locals. Bush and Int'l Rep. Daniel Klein led the organizing campaign.

'Plantation Owner' Attitude Seen in Industry Gang-Up

200 on Strike at Suffolk Peanut in Va.

SUFFOLK, Va.—Two hundred members of Local 26 at the Suffolk Peanut Co. plant went out on strike March 27, taking the only recourse they have to defend themselves against a gang-up of peanut industry employers who are trying to dictate a contract with no improvements.

Regional Dir. Irving Lebold said that in this concerted move to deny wage increases to the 2,500 members of the union, "Suffolk Peanut is fronting for the others, all of whom back the Suffolk management in its brazen, plantation-owner attitude towards the workers."

The employers' attitude has been expressed in their cold admission that it is not a question of inability to pay a wage increase; "it's just good business," not to do so.

The workers have not had a wage increase since March 1, 1956, when the increased federal minimum wage of \$1 an hour went into effect. This meant a substantial increase for women employees and a lesser one for men. Last year saw a very poor peanut crop, and

the workers went along with the employers' request that they forego a raise.

Further negotiations with Suffolk Peanut are scheduled for April 14. Lebold said the union will take this opportunity to repeat its hope that the company will not force a lengthy and expensive battle in an attempt to wear the workers down and get a cheap settlement.

Ready for Long Pull

He said the workers have expressed themselves at meetings in recent weeks as ready for a long pull if necessary to defend themselves and their union against employer attempts to break them.

Plans to carry out a lengthy struggle have been approved by the members at these meetings. They provide that, if fur-

ther negotiations fail to reach a settlement in the next month or so, as many workers as necessary would be assigned to continue picketing while the bulk would be encouraged to seek jobs elsewhere, with part of their earnings going to support a strike.

Such a campaign, Lebold said, would enable the local to continue the strike through the summer off-season and into the latter part of September and early October, when the plants start full-scale production again.

Lebold urged other locals of RWDSU to be alert for a call from Local 26 for aid in the event a long drawn-out struggle ensues. He said that there would be a particular need for contributions of food.

Canada

Hudson's Bay Dept. Store In Pine Falls, Man. Signs First Pact With Big Gains

WINNIPEG, Man.—A first contract, providing for substantial wage increases and other benefits has been concluded between the RWDSU and the Hudson's Bay Co. department store in Pine Falls, Manitoba Joint Council Business Agent Gordon Ritchie reported.

The contract covers 25 workers, who won certification of their choice of RWDSU last October. The store is the first of its kind to be organized outside of Winnipeg.

The one-year agreement provides for:

- Monthly wage increases of \$5 to \$26, effective Nov. 1, 1957;
- A 5-day, 40-hour week; time and a half for overtime, double time for Sunday work, and triple time for work on statutory holidays;
- The union shop;
- Improved vacation benefits of one day per month, with a maximum of 11 working days for the first year, 2 weeks for one year to 10 years of service, 3 weeks after 10 years, and 4 weeks after

25 years; nine statutory holidays and any other public holidays mutually agreed upon by the company and the union in the future; 15-minute rest period mornings and afternoons;

- Improved termination and sick leave pay.

The union's negotiating committee included C. Calder, A. Vincent, Dirk Cuperus and Ritchie.

Elsewhere in this province, negotiations are under way at the Bryce Bakery plant. Several meetings with management and the conciliation officer have failed to bring agreement and it is expected the next step will be a board of conciliation.

In Brandon, members of Local 895, bakery workers, presented their proposals for a new contract to management early this month.

The union is awaiting the report of a conciliation board following hearings on the contract of Dairy Workers Local 755 in Winnipeg.

Pact Talks Begin At Windsor Stores

WINDSOR, Ont.—Contract negotiations have begun between Local 1002 and two retail stores here, while employees of the C. H. Smith department store are working up demands for a new contract to be put before the company soon. About 200 members are employed in the three stores. The two smaller shops are Sam's Department Store and Brotherhood Men's Wear.

At Local 499, employees of the Honey Dew restaurant are drawing contract demands for early negotiations, as are the members at Automatic Canteens.

The Smith's and Honey Dew workers were out for more than three months last year in strikes over inadequate wage offers. Settlements in both situations brought wage increases and other gains.



London Hotel Gang-Up Nixed; Labor Board Orders Talks

LONDON, Ont.—An attempt by the managements of 14 hotels here to gang up on Local 448 in contract negotiations has been stopped, Int'l Rep. Walter Kensit reported.

Kensit said the companies had hoped to force the union to deal with all of them at once and then, refusing an agreement, lock the 200 employees out of their jobs. He said the aim was to break the union, or at least to starve the employees into taking a cheap, long-term settlement.

A labor board order has been issued, calling for negotiations before a conciliation officer between the union and nine of the hotels together, and five separately.

Management at one of the five hotels scheduled for separate talks has flouted the board's order and brought on the threat of strike. This is the Iroquois Hotel management, which came to a negotiating session last month with the employers of eight other hotels and insisted that negotiations take place covering all of them.

This move made meaningful negotiations with the Iroquois impossible, and the union has reported to the labor board, asking strike authorization. Management has meanwhile placed ads in the newspapers in an obvious move to recruit potential strike breakers.

The nine hotels scheduled for joint

negotiations April 9 were the Wellington, Grigg, York, Oxford, Sunnyside, St. Regis, Queens, Park and Victoria, together employing about 100 members. The five firms with which separate talks are to be held are the Golden Stairs Tavern, Savoy Hotel, Brass Rail and Empire Room, as well as the Iroquois Hotel.

Local 448 members at the Guildwood Inn and Balmoral Hotel in nearby Sarnia will soon act on contract demands to be presented to their employers. About 50 workers are affected.

CCF Convention Opens July 30 in Montreal

OTTAWA (CPA)—The Co-operative Commonwealth Federation has issued an official call for its 15th national convention, to be held in Montreal July 30, 31 and August 1, 1958 at the Mount Royal Hotel. The CCF National Council, governing body of the party between conventions, will meet July 28 and 29 in Montreal.

The convention is the policy-making body of the party, and also elects the party leaders, officers and some National Council members.

Canadian Election: Analyzing the Tory Sweep

By H. C. HOWITH
Cooperative Press Ass'n

OTTAWA—"There was a general hysteria engendered by smart advertising and by the speeches of the prime minister and others," CCF national leader M. J. Coldwell replied when asked what he considered were the causes of the Tory election landslide March 31.

"There was also a desire on the part of the Canadian people to give the Conservatives a majority—but not the majority they got," Mr. Coldwell continued.

A majority that size is "very bad for the country," Mr. Coldwell said. "Bad for the country, and of course bad for Parliament."

The CCF leader also felt that it is "almost inevitable" that the Tories would become arrogant and abusive as were the Liberals in the days of big Grit majorities.

Mr. Coldwell found "most difficult to accept" the defeat of deputy CCF leader Stanley H. Knowles in Winnipeg North Center. "Not only was he an outstanding member of Parliament, but he sacrificed everything for the very people who let him down," Mr. Coldwell said.

Turning to the role of the CCF in the future, Mr. Coldwell told this reporter that he "has no doubt

of it—the CCF will go on and grow."

"The popular vote," the CCF leader pointed out, "indicates that there remains a hard core of CCF supporters who can't be swung . . . Our popular vote decreased by less than one percent—by far the lowest drop of any of the three Opposition parties."

"We shall build the movement," he declared.

(On the election night telecast, nationally-known writer and commentator Blair Fraser, who is not known as a CCF supporter, referred twice to the defeat of Mr. Coldwell in Rosetown-Biggan as "a national calamity." Editorials in most Canadian newspapers, none of which is a supporter of the CCF, mourned the loss to Parliament and to Canada of Mr. Coldwell and Mr. Knowles.)

The CLC director of political education, Howard Conquergood, saw the causes of the Tory sweep as the desire to "give Diefenbaker a chance," and the result of "an emotional appeal to the fears and uncertainties of this day and age."

"People have a vague fear of the future," Mr. Conquergood said. "They look to Father—to the one who will solve all their problems for them—to the one who appeals to the emotional needs of the people for a Canada of prosperity and abundance."

The prime minister, Mr. Conquergood said, has not kept his promises of 1957—"and there is no excuse now. We expect him to tackle the problem of full employment and to relieve economic burdens."

Int'l Rep. Allen Schroeder of the United Auto Workers feels the cause of the Conservative sweep was a desire to give the Tories a chance to carry out their promises, plus the direct and indirect support of Quebec Premier Maurice Duplessis in his province. The Social Credit scandals in British Columbia was another reason listed for the big Conservative majority by Mr. Schroeder.

"In general, people like to be on the winning team," he said. "The 'floating vote' just jumped on the bandwagon."

Mr. Schroeder also sees the election as indicating the "frightening success of the leadership cult of Diefenbaker."

Labor, he said, will be "shocked" by the Tories in the House of Commons. "Labor will be more vigorous," he said.

Mr. Schroeder believes the Tory government will favor—not openly—anti-labor legislation, especially if they can blame bad laws on provincial governments. "It will be a subtle campaign," he said.

Speaking of the future of the CCF, Mr. Schroeder declared that "you cannot wipe out a socialist movement."

"The CCF didn't lose the basic, understanding vote although they did lose the floating vote . . . the CCF will regain their position and after next election will do better than before—after the Tory government proves it can't plan for full employment."

"the sky is falling ...
the sky is falling ..."

"that's nothing, the \$1 minimum
for retail is coming"



The Story of Henny Penny and Mr. Jones

Once upon a time, so the old story goes, there was a chicken named Henny Penny. One day an acorn fell upon Henny Penny's head. Henny Penny looked up and saw only the sky. So she rushed off shouting at the top of her lungs, "The sky is falling! The sky is falling!"

These days, cries of panic rise from the national capital every time a proposal is put forward that would offer even the slightest benefit to the people, rather than to big business. One of those who shouts loudest and most often is Mr. Rowland Jones, Jr., president of the American Retail Federation, a large lobbying organization which represents the retail industry. A recent speech in Washington by Mr. Jones, in which nearly every sentence proclaimed that the sky is falling, was inserted in full in the Congressional Record by Senator Karl Mundt of South Dakota. Senator Mundt, one of the farthest right of right-wing Republicans, finds Mr. Jones a man of kindred spirit. The excerpts from Mr. Jones' speech below show why. The notes in italic type have been added by the editors of the RWDSU Record.

"This is a gloomy picture for our members, but we must face up to the realities of the hour. We now witness a well manned, well financed, and concerted drive to extend Federal supremacy over business and the professions by radical moves in the areas of minimum wage, unemployment and workmen's compensation, social security, Taft-Hartley, and taxation as a backdrop of the 1960 election."

(Just what are these "radical moves" that you fear so much, Mr. Jones? Would a dollar an hour minimum wage in the retail industry bring about the downfall of the Republic? Would improved unemployment insurance benefits undermine our democratic way of life? Or a cut in income taxes for low-and middle-income families? Or health care for elderly people retiring on Social Security?)

"The union-inspired bills to extend the Federal wage-hour law to the retail and service industries incorporate through constitutional necessity the most daring definition of interstate commerce ever proposed as a foundation for unlimited extension of Federal power."

"If this law goes on the statute books and is upheld by the courts, the road is wide open to abolish all State lines and every remaining vestige of constitutional definition and limitation of Federal power."

(As soon as the Federal government shows the slightest sign of moving to curb business, every industry spokesman becomes a self-appointed Constitutional expert and raises the sacred banner of States' Rights. But back in 1947 these same gentlemen absolutely demanded Federal action to curb unions with the Taft-Hartley law, claiming that the states couldn't do the job. And back in 1933, when things were mighty bleak for business, big and little industrialists alike pleaded for Franklin D. Roosevelt to use his Federal powers to start the wheels moving again.)

"Another threat is the union-Kennedy bill, S 3244, for Federal dictation of unemployment compensation now controlled and administered by the States, with Federal standards down to the last detail. The power of the States would be an empty shell in yet another area. Significantly, Mr. Kennedy provides vast increases in cost without providing needed revenue—knowing the tax bill will follow with the entire cost on the backs of the employers."

"If this move is successful, the next immediate item on the list will be the development of Federal standards for workmen's compensation."

(What's wrong with that? Why shouldn't there be Federal standards for workmen's compensation? Is it right that the loss of an arm by a

worker in Arizona is compensated at one-third the rate provided in New York, one-tenth the rate set for Federal employees?)

"In such an atmosphere, we are rapidly losing our liberties. We who believe that America derives its economic strength from the free enterprise system must be constantly vigilant against assaults. We must be vocal before every legislature—State and national. We must alert and arouse our citizens to the danger of each extension of Federal power, precedents being what they are. Particularly, we must get across to the American people that government dictation of production, distribution and other segments of our economy threatens them as consumers, as producers, and as citizens."

(How about government loans to industry, Mr. Jones? And other government aid for business? Nothing wrong with those, is there? Or special tax favors for corporations, bonanzas under capital gains provisions, and the like? It's strange indeed that people like Mr. Jones can go on repeating the same old nonsense about "losing our liberties" at a time when business is more firmly entrenched than ever before in the Federal Administration.)

"But we have some outstanding examples of what associations can do in this area. The great medical profession by Herculean political efforts a few years ago, saved us all from the catastrophe of Federal socialized medicine. Every citizen in America has benefited from that endeavor."

(Yes, the American Medical Association, wielding political power far greater than any union ever enjoyed, succeeded in defeating a health bill presented by that awful radical, Robert A. Taft. What a triumph for every citizen! What a disastrous thing it would have been for our country if every American were able to obtain decent medical care through a Federal system of health insurance!)

"The extent to which the opposing organizations combine to support a grand assault on one particular segment of the business community is well illustrated by the present attempt to extend the Federal wage-hour law to the retail and service industries."

"The basic strategy, as usual, is divide and conquer. They are hopeful that other industries will not participate in resisting this union-inspired extension of Federal power to these local enterprises. By limiting the first extension to the larger employers in these industries, they are hopeful of splitting the large from the small—with every intention of having full and complete coverage of the smallest business in the smallest hamlet at a not-too-distant future. With a political action committee in every State and county right down to the precinct level, they are mounting terrific pressure on every Member of the Congress."

"This is not the first time we have fought this issue. A major attempt was successfully resisted in 1949. We expect to win again—if—if we continue the closely coordinated effort, and a united front. Our greatest danger is from ourselves—if we go it alone, if we weary of the struggle, and if we decide the fight is lost before the last round. The Members of the Congress whose political philosophy opposes Federal power grabs have been immeasurably strengthened by support from the folks back home. Indeed, such support is absolutely necessary if they are to stand firm—and stay in Congress. Businessmen are realizing more and more that visits to Congressmen, and letters expressing their views, are welcomed."

(Businessmen aren't the only ones who intend to visit their Congressmen, Mr. Jones. Just drop around to the Capitol on April 29, and you'll see a lot of RWDSU members doing that. You see, Mr. Jones, Congressmen are pretty smart, and most of them know how to count. And the one thing that we have more of than you is PEOPLE. People who can vote. People who are learning day by day how to organize politically for the things they want and need. One of these days, Mr. Jones, we'll be able to use the great power of our numbers. But even then the sky won't really be falling.)



By JANE GOODSSELL

I hereby announce that I will pay the top market price for dookun. I will also give a cash award for any information about dookun.

What I really want to know is: what is dookun?

Dookun is an obsession with our 13-month-old daughter Molly. It is the first thing she asks for when she wakes up in the morning. And she keeps asking for it all day long. She even wakes up at night and mutters about it.

Molly knows what dookun is, but she can't explain it to us. Her vocabulary is limited to a very few words (bow-vow, mama, bye-bye, car, no-no and pretty) and these words are inadequate to define dookun for us.

When Molly first began asking for dookun, we thought she wanted a cookie. We gave her an arrowroot cookie, and she threw it on the floor. After some pondering we decided that dookun might be a cookie, but a different flavor.

So we gave her a fig newton, graham crackers, gingersnaps and chocolate wafers. She threw them all on the floor except the chocolate wafer, which she ate. In between bites she kept on demanding dookun. This beyond all doubt eliminated cookies as dookun.

Our discovery of dookun is made especially difficult due to the fact that dookun apparently can't be pointed to. When asked where the dookun is, Molly points off into space. Therefore, dookun must be either an abstraction or else something that we don't have around the house.

We have abandoned the technique of cross questioning Molly. And we are now using the trial-and-error method. We show things to Molly, in the hope that someday something will turn out to be dookun. We have now eliminated several hundred possibilities.



—Record Drawings by Marjorie Glaubach

We are also testing the theory that dookun might be something to do. So we go for rides in the car, we wave bye-bye to airplanes and we pet bow-bows. We are tireless in our efforts, but we haven't yet found dookun.

Molly is beginning to sound a little frantic. She is desperate for dookun, and we can't give it to her. This worries us.

Still, we are unwilling to admit defeat. If Stanley could find Livingston, if Balboa could find the Pacific Ocean, we can find dookun.

Ike's Advice to Consumers:

Don't Buy ... Don't Buy ... BUY!

Sept., 1957, Ike news conference: "I am not advocating any buyer's strike, but I do know this, we should buy selectively and carefully, and not merely because we have the largest income in history, largest individual incomes, largest corporate incomes. We should not be spending recklessly and adding fuel to this flame."

Oct., 1957, Ike news conference: "I just believe, in a period of rising prices like in any other thing, people should attempt to purchase less than when prices are going down. Then you purchase more because that is when they can get them cheaper, and that is what a competitive enterprise is."

March, 1958, Ike news conference: "I believe, of course, that the upturn in our economy will be the result of millions of citizens making their purchases, having greater confidence."

Appliance Costs Dropping To Sensible Levels; Tips on Vacuum Cleaners

By SIDNEY MARGOLIUS
Consumer Expert for The Record

As one labor editor comments, since the Fair Trade price-fixing laws have broken down, \$37 vacuum cleaners are now selling for \$37 instead of \$57.

In a period of rising prices, even while costs of materials like steel have been rising, tags on appliances have dropped sharply. The refrigerator that cost \$400 in 1950, and even \$280 last year, now sells, on the average, for \$250. The \$200 television set of 1952 now is \$180. The \$70 vacuum cleaner now is \$62. In 1958 you even buy small radios for \$11, just as before World War II. In all, while the average prices of goods and services you buy have gone up 23 percent since just before 1950, prices of many appliances have dropped 10 to 35 percent.

But while today's equipment costs less and has more automatic features, it sometimes also has cheaper materials and more defects. Factory service managers themselves have admitted to this reporter that factory inspection has been loosened as manufacturers have cut prices. Refrigerators and washers now also have lighter-gauge metal shells which not only dent more easily but sometimes affect mechanical efficiency. The plastic dials and knobs on washers are now lighter weight and no longer have a metal sleeve to take the screw but are self-threaded. So they crack more often.

Similarly, today's television sets gives you a bigger picture but they have fewer tubes and other parts. What's left must work harder.

Also, much design has been chiefly for appearance, convenience, and safety, with the possible exception of voltage leakage. But while good progress has been made in the development of safety standards, less has been accomplished in durability standards, an engineer for a leading manufacturer has publicly admitted.

Cheap Parts Cause Boners

Some huge boners have occurred. One manufacturer made part of his washing machine pump of plastic. The pump worked all right in factory tests. But the plastic sections cracked in freezing weather en route to dealers and were delivered to buyers that way. Thousands had to be replaced.

Vacuum cleaners are one of this year's appliance bargains. Those you sometimes see advertised for less than \$35 should be shopped with care. Sometimes they're nailed to the floor, as the trade says. This means they're bait to get you to come down and be sold a higher-priced machine.

However, this Spring even reputable stores have been offering canister cleaners for as little as \$33. These "leaders" generally have "list prices" of \$49.95. They are fairly good machines but not the best made by the same manufacturers. Heavier-duty canister vacuums, with more power, more durable construction, and larger dust containers generally have "list" or "suggested" retail prices: of \$69.50 and up, and actual retail prices of \$50 to \$60, depending on the make and where you buy.

Canisters have become the most popular type, followed by tank types, with uprights in third place, the trade magazine *Electrical Merchandising* reports. Canisters have no dust bag to empty, but simply a paper-bag liner. They're also more versatile. Uprights are good for rugs but not as convenient for general housecleaning.

How Much Air Does It Move?

The cleaning effectiveness of a vacuum depends chiefly on its ability to move air. The size of the motor is an important factor but not the only one. The pitch of the fan and other details also affect the suction. However, the motor is the easiest specification you can compare, besides trying out various cleaners and observing the suction.

Different makes and models of vacuums vary from one-half to one horsepower. Often the cheaper cleaners have only one-half h.p. motors. But here's why it's important to compare specifications. Some cleaners have 3/4 or 7/8 h.p. motors even though they sell for less than \$40, and in fact are more powerful than some costing as much as \$15 more.

Also compare the size of the dust container—generally smaller on cheaper vacs. Some also have no bumper guard, or only a thin one. Check also the ability of a cleaner to pick up lint. A convenient if not decisive feature is a reel-away cord-holder. If you have stairs to clean, a useful feature is a stretchable hose (as on some Hoovers). It can stretch to the top of the stairs.

The rug-cleaning attachment should have thick bristles, rather than the thin line found on some makes. Better cleaners generally also have wheels. Cheaper ones have only a rounded bottom. Better cleaners have a 20-foot cord; cheaper ones, often only 15-foot.

Note also the toggle switch. On better canisters it's generally more substantial so you can switch the machine on and off with your foot with less chance of damage.

Most manufacturers now have a price-leader canister and a better one. For example, one maker (Hoover) currently has on the market two canisters with a difference of \$20 in list price. Some dealers offer a special on the better model with a difference of only \$5. If the spread is that narrow, the better cleaner is the better buy. Both have basically the same construction, but the better cleaner has the hose that really stretches, a more substantial toggle switch, a more efficient rug-cleaning tool, and heavier bumper.

Some of the best-quality cleaners are sold door to door. But they are also among the highest-priced, with discounts rarely available. Also, you may have to turn to these door-to-door companies for service. They tend to use high repair estimates as an argument for selling you a new cleaner.

One convenient vacuum is the "lectric broom." It's available at many stores for less than \$30, weighs less than seven pounds, and cleans without attachments. But it's not powerful enough if you have large carpeted areas to clean.

Keep Your Cleaner Clean

U. S. Agriculture Department home-economists report: "Again and again, servicemen find that a cleaner is 'out of order' or 'won't work' simply because the dirt container needs to be emptied or the filter cleaned." Not only does the dust container need frequent cleaning, but the filters on some models should be washed or replaced often, as per the directions in your instruction booklet.

INFLATION

IN THE MIDST OF

RECESSION



How Rising Costs Boost Average Family's Expenses

Last year's boost in the cost of living deprived workers of between \$240 and \$350 a year in hard cash. Increases in food and medical expenses took the biggest bite out of the budget of workers who rent homes. The year's big boost in interest rates took the biggest chunk out of home owners' budgets.

The 1957 statistics and their comparison with 1956 are based on studies by the Heller Committee at the University of California and cover the San Francisco-Bay area with its heavy industrialization and relatively high wage scale.

This Heller Budget, which has been computed for many years, is highly regarded as a key to "those goods and services that public opinion currently recognizes as necessary to health and a reasonably comfortable living." The budget includes an analysis of income needed by a family of four consisting of father, mother and two children aged 8 and 13. Families covered include a wage-earning family that rents and a family that owns its own home.

Here is what happened to those two wage-earner family budgets as a result of the climb in the cost of living last year:

THE HOME RENTING FAMILY:

In 1956 this family needed an income of \$5,592.59 or approximately \$107.53 a week. In 1957 it needed \$5,831.70 a year or approximately \$112.10 a week. On a yearly basis this represents an increase in expense of \$239.11 or roughly \$4.57 a week.

For this family the big boosts came in an increase of \$81.89 a year in food; \$33.23 in medical expenses; \$18 in rent; \$10.81 in recreation and \$10.29 for clothing. The only category that showed a drop was transportation where expenses in 1957 were 29 cents a year less than in 1956 because second hand cars dropped slightly in price.

THE HOME OWNING FAMILY:

The story for the family that owned its home was somewhat worse because of a sharp jump in housing costs, brought on by the high interest, hard money policy of the Eisenhower Administration.

In 1956 the home owning worker needed \$5,849.67 a year or \$112.10 to meet the Heller budget. In 1957 he needed \$6,204.21 a year or \$119.30 a week. On a yearly basis this comes to an increase in needed income of \$354.54 a year or about \$6.80 a week. By and large the increased cost of most items was about the same as for the renting wage earner. The big difference came in housing.

Housing Costs Go Up

For the renter housing costs went up only about \$18 a year, from \$58.50 to \$60.00 a month. For the home owner, costs shot up \$127.78 a year. The purchase price of a home was up roughly \$800, the down payment was up about \$500 and interest rates during the year had gone up from 4½ percent to 5½ percent.

As a result total monthly payments in 1957 were \$87.29 as compared with \$71.86 in 1956. On an annual basis the carrying charges in 1956 were \$862.32 as compared with \$987.48 in 1957.

Although the Heller budget showed a 5% increase in food prices from September 1956 to September 1957, things have gotten even worse since then. Food prices this spring reached their highest point in six years. The 19 market staples which cost \$7.19 a year ago will register \$8.20 this spring, a 14 percent increase. Most meats, poultry and some frozen fish are 7 to 22

cents a pound higher than a year ago. Also, fresh and canned produce costs more. Chuck roast, now 59 to 67 cents a pound, a year ago cost only 39 cents. Hamburger, 39 cents last year, is now selling for 49 to 51 cents a pound. Even cornflakes have gone up 2½ percent.

It should be borne in mind that while the Heller budget calls for earnings of \$112 a week for a worker who rents his home, and \$119 for a home-owner, wages in the San Francisco area—like those in the rest of the country—average a good deal less. National average factory wages are little more than \$80 a week—which means that the average worker doesn't come anywhere near being able to afford the very modest standard of living called for in the Heller budget.

\$32.50 a Week for Food

Proof that the Heller Committee's standards are hardly excessive can be found in the nature of the items included. Take food, for example. The budget calls for \$32.78 a week for food. This may sound like a lot, but it permits only 15½ pounds of meat, fish and poultry a week—a little over half a pound a day for each of the four members of the family. It means no "store-bought" cake at all and allows only three boxes of cake mix every four weeks. One and one-half packages of frozen vegetables and one can of frozen juice a week are all that are permitted.

Furniture, appliances and other items really have to last. The Heller budget spreads the cost of these items over the total period they are expected to be used. Thus, refrigerator, stove, washing machine and vacuum cleaner are expected to last for 17 years, a toaster for ten, a rug or linoleum floor covering for 15 years.

towels for ten, a radio or television set for nine years.

The clothing allowance in the Heller budget, like the food allowance, is adequate but leaves much to be desired. The father gets along on \$120.73 a year for clothes, including annual upkeep and drycleaning. The mother is allowed a little more, \$134.57 a year. The clothes listed in the budget are all basic essentials—topcoat, raincoat, suit, work pants, sweater, for the man; raincoat, suit, street dress, handbag for the woman, to mention only one area. There is no allowance for accessories for the woman.

The Heller budget includes a car—a five-year-old model expected to last for another four years. Even so, the family spends \$505.72 a year on the car, including \$102.76 in insurance, and \$14.35 a year in fees and licenses. Total mileage for the year: 7,000 miles, which is expected to include driving the car to work.

The total cost of recreation for the Heller family is \$209.02 a year. This includes movie admissions, plays, concerts, sports events, toys and play equipment, camera, films, photographic equipment and the like. It even includes the cost of television and radio. Needless to say, there isn't a great deal of going out in the Heller family.

The only vacation the wage earner gets in the Heller budget is one week spent camping at one of California's camp sites. Total allowance for the family for one vacation: \$39.50.

Finally, the Heller budget makes no provision for savings. Presumably any savings the family might make must come out of earnings over and above the budget figures of \$112 and \$119 a week. But how many wage earners are in such brackets? Very few indeed.

The Cost Climb

Heller budget for a wage earner, his wife and two children

	1956	1957
Income Taxes (Fed. and State)	10.23	11.10
Food	31.11	32.78
Alcoholic Beverages	1.05	1.06
Housing (rent)	13.50	13.86
Household Operation	4.16	4.20
Household Furnishings	4.10	4.17
Clothing and Upkeep	8.94	9.11
Transportation, including auto	10.21	10.20
Medical and Dental	8.39	9.05
Personal Insurance	4.48	4.68
Personal care, Barber, Beauty Shop, etc.	1.99	2.02
Recreation, movies, TV, etc.	3.99	4.09
Tobacco	1.81	1.95
Reading63	.66
Education (school books, fees)12	.13
Union dues	1.05	1.08
Gifts and Contributions	1.59	1.66
Miscellaneous28	.30
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$107.53	\$112.10

(Costs for the wage earner who owns his own home went up along the same lines except for a sharp boost in carrying charges due to increases in interest rates which raised his weekly housing costs from \$16.58 in 1956 to \$18.99 in 1957.)

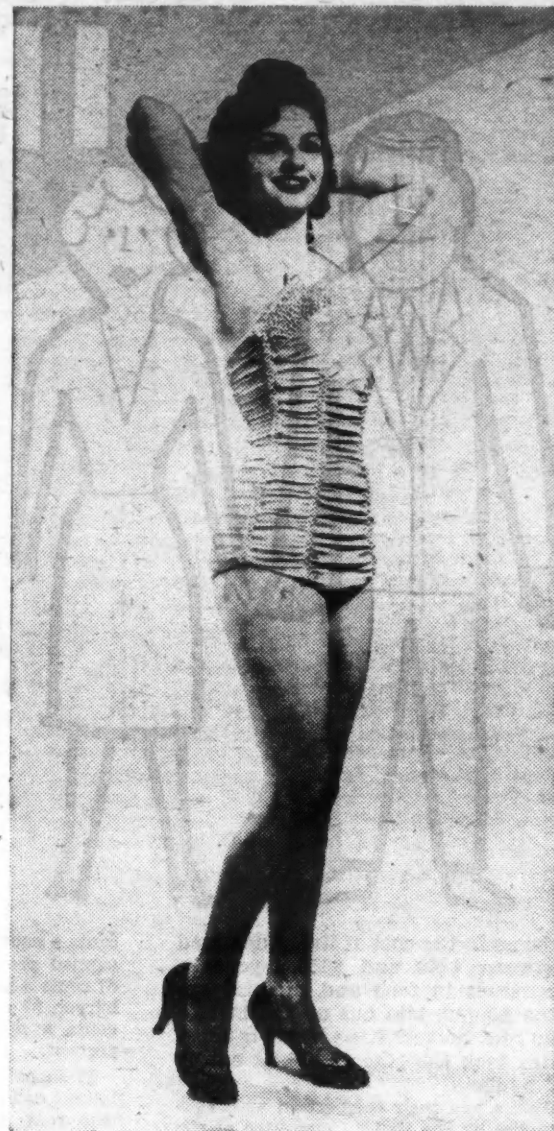
UNION QUEEN ENTRIES:

a double portion

The flood of entries in The Record's Union Queen contest was so great that this batch, the last to be printed before the five finalists are selected, occupies twice the space usually allotted. As can be seen, these contestants maintain the high standards of pulchritude displayed by previous entries.

The next step in The Record's search for Miss Union Queen is to have a recognized expert in feminine loveliness carefully go over all the photos that have been submitted by RWDSU members. From these, five finalists will be selected. Their pictures will appear in a forthcoming issue, together with a ballot on which Record readers can select their favorite for the title. After the ballots are counted and tabulated, the winner will be announced—and will receive the many fine prizes set aside for the Union Queen. The runners-up will receive prizes too.

To all the very attractive members of the RWDSU who have sent in photos, our sincere appreciation and best wishes. May the most beautiful gal win!



JUDITH L. BURR works at Cushman's bakery in Newark, N. J., is a member of Local 260. She has auburn hair, green eyes and weighs 118 lbs. Five feet four inches tall, she tapes in at 35-23-35.



↑ **ANITA McKAY** is a member of Local 291 in Chicago, Ill. A cashier at Howard Clothes store, she is 5'2", has 34" bust, 22" waist and 34" hips.



← **ALMENA ARMSTRONG** of New York is a member of District 65. She works in the union's Security Plan office, is 5'5" tall, weighs 123 lbs. and measures 35-24-38. She has black hair and eyes.



LENA DICK of Vancouver, B.C., Canada, left, is a typist at McLennan, McFeely & Prior Ltd., member of Local 535. The brown-eyed brunette is 5'4" tall, weighs 121 lbs., measures 35-23-35. **NANCY YOUNG**, right, is an inspector at Celluplastics Corp. plant in Fitchburg, Mass., belongs to Local 875. She is 5'2" tall, weighs 124 lbs., has dark brown hair and blue eyes. Vital statistics: 34-25½-36.



JOAN LANASA is a member of Local 101 in Pittsburgh, Pa., works at Rosenbaum Co. Dept. Store. Five feet 4 inches tall, she measures 37-25-36 in the usual order.



CAROL PLUMB is a sales clerk in the blouse department at R. H. Macy Co. in New York. She is a member of Local 1-S. She has chestnut hair, green eyes, is 5'7" tall, 125 lbs., and tapes in at 36-23-35½.



DORIS GRESDAL of Regina, Sask., Canada is a member of Local 454 and a clerk-cashier at Shop Easy Stores Ltd. She has brown hair and eyes, is 5'6½" tall, weighs 126 lbs. and measures 37-24-36.



BETTY WOOD is a member of Local 338 in New York. A cashier at Associated Food Stores, she is 5'2½" tall, weighs 125 lbs., measures 36-26-36, and has black hair and brown eyes.

MONOPOLY = HIGH PRICES UNEMPLOYMENT

By **SENATOR ESTES KEFAUVER**
Democrat of Tennessee

I doubt whether many Americans are aware of the extent to which we have lost the benefits of competition in the business and industrial life of the United States. I say this despite the fact every one of us in this country is in part paying for that loss through high prices, and in unemployment with all its costs and dangers, and in the loss of the creative business vigor which made American industry the marvel of the world.

What is involved is nothing less than our ability to provide substantially full employment for the American labor force as it grows in size year by year. Involved in this loss of economic freedom, and most directly involved, is the gradual loss in the purchasing power of the dollar through higher and higher prices.

The cost of living and prices are presently at an all-time high. Yet every day newspapers and trade journals are reporting an ever-increasing number of basic industries that are cutting back production, with resulting increases in unemployment.

There can be little doubt that the solution of these economic problems besetting our competitive-enterprise system is one of the most essential tasks of this generation. Time may prove the solution to be our most essential task.

America prospers on full employment. I do not think that our stability at home or power and influence in the world will long permit us the gigantic waste of manpower and plant capacity which lack of true competition is forcing upon us.

Increased concentration in our basic industries is making it more difficult—and in many industries impossible—for new enterprises to be energized.

It has been obvious to many, if not to the administration, for a long time that the kind of inflation we are experiencing is not of the classical kind in which money outran commodities and consumers bid prices up. Prices have stayed up. They have gone higher in a period of falling production. The administration applied the classical remedy to what it thought was a classical economic condition. It mistakenly applied the tight-money policy to dry up what it thought was excess spending. And prices stayed right up there and have even gone higher.

Tight-Money Policy No Solution

Tight money was no solution to the problems of this inflation. It became apparent that the concentration of power in the hands of supercolossal corporations permitted them to ignore the usual operations of supply and demand. That power is permitting them to make profits, even increased profits in some cases, on a declining market. That power is placing some of these supercolossal corporations to a large extent beyond the operations of Federal policy.

Yet we have antitrust laws on the books. Why is it that these laws have not resulted in price competition in these basic industries?

The problem is this. Under our anti-trust laws today, if the members of one of our industries combine or conspire and agree to fix and maintain prices, such conspiracy and agreement would be unlawful and violative of the Sherman Antitrust Act and section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act. On the other hand, if all of the members of one of our basic industries, such as steel or automotive, make it a regular practice of following the lead of the dominant party in the industry, prices are fixed and maintained just as effectively as if they were the result of an illegal agreement, and the American people are just as effectively denied the fruits of competition.

This problem is forcing us to face more intelligently the problem of bigness. It once was true that citizens of liberal and progressive casts of mind almost automatically found themselves against bigness as such. But this attitude has changed.

There is much to be said of the new point of view. It is quite true, as an example, that the wealth and resources of Du Pont made possible the long years of research from which came such developments as



cellophane and nylon. There is a kind of bigness, such as that of the American Telephone & Telegraph Co., which is inherent in the kind of service it performs. No small company could do the job.

But it is a mistake to think that mere bigness always leads to efficiency. There is a point beyond which additional production—of automobiles, for instance—does not result in lowered costs.

Whether bigness is tolerable is a relative matter. To put it very simply, whether bigness is a good and proper thing or not depends on whether the bigness serves us or we serve bigness.

Does bigness result in better service and lower prices? Does it result in technological progress and improved products and service?

Or, on the other hand, does bigness serve to force out competition or create a dominance of such competition as is permitted to remain in the field, thus maintaining high prices and supernormal profits?

There can be no question that the wrong kind of bigness is on the increase in the United States. There is no question, either, that as these concentrations of economic power increase, we become progressively less able to control the problems they bring.

Political Freedom Requires Free Economy

I think history—and very recent history at that—will show that when a nation loses its economic freedom, the loss of political freedom follows as certainly as night follows day. We saw it happen in Germany. We saw it happen in Italy. We saw it happen in Japan. We could see it happen in the United States of America.

It might be said that the easiest way would come through Government ownership or through strict regulation. They might solve a part of the problem, but they would create other problems of their own. Both are repugnant to me. Either might well result in stagnation of enterprise, when the exact opposite is the result we hope to achieve.

It must be pointed out that much of the regulation we have today in the fields of transportation, communications, and utilities resulted from excessive con-

centration of power in those industries and the blatant misuse of such power.

This regulation to a great extent immunizes many endeavors from the application of the antitrust laws. However, all our basic productive industries are fully subject to their application, and it is to these industries that our economic life is most sensitive.

It is in these industries that great masses of unemployment can arise. The unemployment which deeply troubles us now is largely coming from cutbacks in our basic industries, such as steel and automobiles. It is these industries upon which we must depend if we are once again to reach a state of full employment.

A slowdown in the automobile industry is disturbing enough, but when one realizes that it has been accompanied by an increase in automobile prices, then we really have a problem.

Attorney General William P. Rogers has recognized the relationship between the cost of living and antitrust law enforcement. On December 9, shortly after assuming office, he stated in a press statement, "If antitrust laws are effective, the cost of living will be kept down." I agree with this statement by our Attorney General, and I certainly hope that he will endeavor to utilize our antitrust laws to their fullest, in order to keep the cost of living as low as possible.

Stronger Anti-trust Laws Needed

On the other hand, I am afraid the problem transcends the words of our Attorney General. I believe we have stood idly by in America and allowed large corporations to become so much larger that today concentration has reached such a peak that the only solution is either to dissolve some of the great corporations or to find other means of energizing new undertakings in these industries in order to create the competition which today is not present. I think there needs to be a strengthening of the laws in a great many respects. Congress should provide heavier penalties in the antitrust laws. Under present conditions many corporations can violate the antitrust laws and pay fines, since the penalties simply become an operating expense.

There is something more needed to assure free and fluid competition than we can obtain from laws alone.

There is the question of capital.

The so-called tight-money policy of the present administration, as bitter a mistake as it has committed, has all but obliterated sources of capital for many growing businesses, and has even more gravely affected the start of new industrial enterprises.

I am of the opinion that an agency of the type of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation should now be reconstituted to supply capital necessary for the creation of industrial enterprises in areas in which sufficient competition does not now exist.

In connection with the high degree of concentration that exists in many industries, my subcommittee intends to continue its study in that field. Many important questions must be determined with respect to this degree of concentration, among which are the causes and effects of the movement, a study in order to determine the part that mergers have played in this increased concentration picture must be made, and a review of the enforcement programs of the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice under the antimerger law must be engaged in.

During this year it is my hope that we can have appear before the Antitrust and Monopoly Subcommittee representatives of the Department of Justice, the Federal Trade Commission, and leading legal and economic scholars, in order to gain from them their expert opinion and advice as to the solution of these troublesome problems. It is my hope that before this legislative year expires, some of the answers to the problems besetting our free enterprise system can be determined.

We may very well have arrived at the time in American life when it is necessary to amend our 1890 Sherman and 1914 Federal Trade and Clayton Acts in order to meet the dynamic demands of our 1958 society. Free and open competition is as necessary to the American way as are free speech and free religion. It must not be allowed to pass from the scene. Our antitrust laws must be made fully capable of serving as a guardian of the public interest. Special interests must not be allowed to prevail in America to the detriment of the public interest.

lighter side of the record

Can't Fight It

A farm boy said to his brother: "Bill, how would you get a girl to marry you?"
Bill answered: "Well, if she don't want to, you can't. But if she does, there ain't hardly no way to prevent it."

Filled With Persuasion

"Well," said Jack, "Joe finally married that red head."
"What got into him?" queried Bill.
"Buckshot," replied Jack.

Approximate

The small boy was trying to answer politely the numerous questions his mother's guest was asking.
"And how old are you?" she asked.
"Almost six. How old are you?"
"Oh," she said, embarrassed, "I don't remember the year I was born."
"Never mind," he replied courteously. "Tell me the century."

Advertising

Truck Driver: "The portions you served me on the way up yesterday were twice as big."
Diner Waitress: "Where were you sitting?"
Truck Driver: "Over near the window."
Diner Waitress: "That accounts for it. Those portions were for advertising purposes."

Bored-Nik

Two first graders were standing outside school one morning. "Do you think," asked one, "that thermonuclear projectiles will pierce the heat barrier?"
"No," said the second. "Once a force enters the stratosphere..."
Then the bell rang. Said the 1st: "There goes the bell. Darn it, now we gotta go in and string beads."

Balanced Diet

A child's idea of a balanced diet is to balance a piece of cake in one hand and a bottle of soda pop in the other.

Works, Too

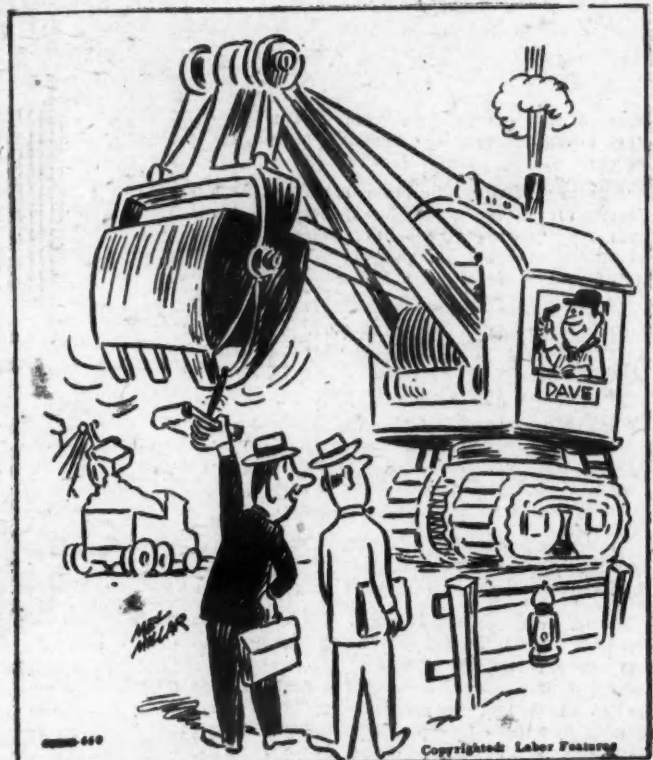
The fancy questionnaire a household appliance company used to survey Iowa housewives brought equally fancy replies. To the question, "What make of garbage disposal unit do you use?" one woman wrote, "Four hogs."

Make a Difference

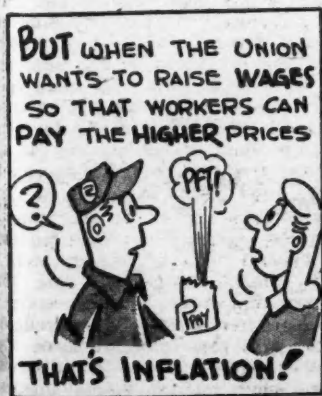
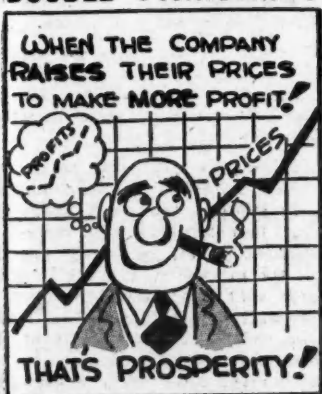
A man was taking an examination for a driver's license and one of the questions was:
"What would you do if the driver ahead of you moved an arm up and down?"
The applicant asked:
"Man or woman?"

Ride 'Em Cowboy

A cow-hand boarded an airliner at Billings, Mont., on a day when gusty mountain winds made flying pretty rough. In spite of the stewardess' numerous requests, he refused to fasten his seat belt.
"Young lady," he snorted, "for 30 years I rode everything I ever mounted, and I ain't about to be saddled now. Let 'er buck, I'll ride her."—Capper's Weekly



DOUBLE STANDARDS



APRIL 29 RALLY



Senator John F. Kennedy, left, and United Auto Workers Pres. Walter P. Reuther will speak at RWDSU meeting in Washington April 29. Afterwards, 1,500 delegates will visit their Congressmen and press for action on unemployment, minimum wage coverage.

Top Congressional, labor leaders will address big RWDSU rally in Washington April 29, when delegates from all parts of the U. S. gather in the capital to lobby on two big issues: federal action to halt recession, and extension of coverage under federal wage-hour law to cover millions not now protected by such legislation.

For full details on the "greatest RWDSU mobilization ever," see Page 3.